

**WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:**

1. A process for avoiding compass and/or register errors in a printing machine, comprising the steps of: imprinting marks (12) on a carrying element (1); detecting the marks (12) on the carrying element (1) with a first sensor (8), detecting a seam (11) on the carrying element (1) with a second sensor (7); and discarding detected sensor values read by the first sensor (8) in the area of the seam (11), that is detected by the second sensor (7).
2. A process according to Claim 1, wherein an angle of rotation ascertains the rotation of the carrying element (1), by a sensor/transmitter (10) on a drive shaft of the carrying element (1); upon detecting the seam (11), the second sensor (7) transmits a sensor signal to a control mechanism (15), and the control mechanism (15) reads the count value of the angle of rotation sensor/transmitter (10); and, based on the count value, identifying the location of the seam (11) on the carrying element (1).
3. A process according to Claim 1, wherein the area in which the sensor values read by the first sensor (8) are discarded, is 18.5 mm long upstream of the seam (11) and 18.5 mm long downstream of the seam (11), in relation to the direction of travel of the carrying element (1).
4. A process according to Claim 1, wherein the area in which the sensor values read by the first sensor (8) are discarded is 12.8 mm long upstream of the seam (11) and 12.8 mm long downstream of the seam (11), in relation to the direction of travel of the carrying element (1).
5. A process according to Claim 2, wherein the sensor values read by the first sensor (8) in the area of the seam (11) that is detected by second sensor (7) are stored in the control mechanism (15), are then compared with the compass and/or register errors, and on the basis of the comparison, a determination is made as to whether the sensor values are to be discarded.

6. A process according to Claim 5, wherein only those sensor values read by the second sensor (7) are discarded that arise from the detection of the seam (11) by the second sensor (7).

5

7. A process according to Claim 6, wherein the sensor values read by the first sensor (8) are examined in the control mechanism (15) and as a result of the examination, those sensor values of the first sensor (7) are discarded which come about from the detection of the seam (11) by the second sensor (7).

10

8. A control mechanism of a printing machine, including a closed loop image carrying element, for avoiding register errors, comprising: at least one first sensor (8) for detecting marks (12) on the carrying element (1); a second sensor (7) for detecting a seam (11) on the carrying element (1) and a device for receiving mark values from said first sensor seam values from said second sensor, and discarding mark values when said seam is detected.

15

9. A control mechanism according to Claim 8, wherein the area in which the sensor values read by the first sensor (8) are discarded, is 18.5 mm long upstream of the seam (11) and 18.5 mm long downstream of the seam (11), in relation to the direction of travel of the carrying element (1).

20

10. A control mechanism according to Claim 8, wherein the area in which the sensor values read by the first sensor (8) are discarded is 12.8 mm long upstream of the seam (11) and 12.8 mm long downstream of the seam (11), in relation to the direction of travel of the carrying element (1).

25